

NOVEMBER '09

# Our dear friends,

## Greetings in Jesus whom we call God; Our Father making us one in His spirit.

=News

The children are now enjoying their mid-term break from school – which gave us an opportunity to take them on an excursion. On this occasion we were able to visit the city of Mysore.

We owe much to the kindness of friends who made this trip possible. It is our practice to keep the children informed of the plans we make for them, so as to have them prepared. To their delight, class exams were over and a holiday mood had well and truly settled in! Some of the children couldn't sleep for the excitement! A variety of snacks were prepared and packed, adding greatly to the joy of travelling together on a long road trip.

We started out early to beat the heat and daytime traffic. Once the twists and turns down the mountains were over, there was the usual singing and clapping – from one joyful song of praise to another – until someone shouted out "Hey! Look! There's an elephant!" Every child saw the elephant except Akila, whose complaint was "I can't see the elephant because I'm not sitting at a window!" Someone quickly made room for her and she was thrilled!

Our children managed to stay together in a group despite the crowds. We walked around the Mysore Zoo together, enjoying the sights, sounds and smells, while teaching Jessica about the animals and birds she was looking at. We then left to find a spot were the children could play in the water. The Mysore heat added to this desire. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves amidst splashes and laughter. However, we did not spend too much time there, thanks to the pelting rain which brought everyone back into the shelter of the van. Our next stop was the Brindavan Gardens which are renowned for their beauty. A special attraction were the dancing fountains which the children especially enjoyed. On returning to the city, we saw much decoration with colourful lights – typical of the Dasara festive season. The brightly lit Mysore Palace was a sight to see! Tired and excited, the children enjoyed a hot and spicy meal before going to bed at a public dormitory.



All were up and ready quite early the next day, as they were told of the sightseeing and shopping that was planned before the final trip home. After a tasty breakfast our first stop was a neatly-built Chapel that was also noticeably well maintained. The priest came out to meet us and prayed with us. He then offered the children chocolates. Later, after a visit to an old Cathedral, we headed off to visit the Palace and do a little shopping. Lunch was a special treat from friends of Mizpah at the Ginger Hotel. We had a short time to refresh ourselves and try to look a little less like the weary travellers we were! Our hosts then arrived and we enjoyed a sumptuous meal in air-conditioned comfort. With a hearty 'thank you' to our hosts we left Mysore, but not before one last splash and dash in the water before heading home.

It was here that the prayers of the faithful served us well. Except for the loss of a mobile phone in an unpleasant incident, we boarded the van for our ride home with a sense of gratitude at being hidden in the safe hands of God. The children were too tired to sing, so some found a shoulder to lean on while others found a comfy seat on which to doze. Still others chatted the ride away. Back home at Mizpah, we sang our thanks and praise for two wonderful days (in the words of our children!), which we hope may soon return. We sincerely thank all our friends and supporters whose prayerful support and consideration have made this joy a reality for us. God bless and keep you close to His heart – the way it is for us.

### PRAISE GOD WITH US

- for happy family times together
- for His constant care and protection
- for faithful partners

#### **PLEASE PRAY WITH US**

- that the children may put their trust in Christ Jesus
- that the children may grow in the grace and the knowledge of God
- that we may continue to be kept by the power of God
- for a good supply of drinking water at Mizpah

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Mohan and Jenny